

IN THE CLAIMS

Please delete all prior lists of claims in the application and insert the following list of claims.

1 - 5. (Previously Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A wound closure device for connecting tissue comprising at least one pair of isolated first and second flexible straps wherein:

- a. the first flexible strap has a proximal end with a male connector and a distal end, and a ventral surface, **and** a dorsal surface, **and a longitudinal axis**; and
- b. the second flexible strap has a proximal end with a female connector and a distal end, and a ventral surface, **and** a dorsal surface, **and a longitudinal axis**, wherein the female connector is configured to adjustably connect to the male connector of the first strap, wherein the female connector includes an opening transverse to the longitudinal axis extending completely through the female connector from the ventral surface to the dorsal surface for receiving the ~~mail~~ **male** connector,

wherein the first strap **has a plurality of barbs on the ventral surface for engaging the tissue** and the second strap ~~have~~ **has** a plurality of barbs on the ventral surface for engaging the tissue; and

whereby the straps form a wound closure.

7. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 6, wherein the **the distal end of the** first strap and the **distal end of the** second strap are placed in the fascia of the wound.

8. (Original) The device of claim 6, wherein the device is made of resorbable material.

9 - 12. (Previously Canceled)

13. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 6, wherein the first and second straps are placed in the wound by the use of a trochar.

14 - 15. (Previously Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 6, wherein the female end comprises a buckle.

17. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 16 wherein the male end of the first strap includes a ratcheted surface to accommodate the buckle of the female end.

18 - 19. (Canceled)